

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of producing a piece of artwork using a computer-controlled color printer capable of printing at least three colors, comprising:

a) inputting or selecting a multicolor image so that it is provided in the computer;

b) selectively disabling one or more of the colors, while not disabling all of the colors besides black, of the printer to insure little or none of the one or more disabled colors is printed by the printer; and

c) with the printer, printing the non-disabled color or colors of the image onto a substrate.

2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a)-c) are practiced to produce a final work of art, either with or without the artist's name, a title, and/or other writing.

3. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein c) is practiced by printing onto a substrate of paper or canvas.

4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising d) further acting upon the substrate from c) to add artistic elements to the substrate to produce a final artwork.

5. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein d) is practiced by applying colored paints to spaced portions of the substrate from c).

6. A method as recited in claim 5 wherein d) is practiced by applying texture to spaced portions of the substrate using a palette knife, eye-dropper, or the like; and further comprising adding illustrated objects, foreign materials, or effects, to spaced portions of the substrate.

7. A method as recited in claims 4 wherein b) is practiced to fully disable one or more colors.

8. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein b) is practiced to only partially disable one or more colors.

9. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein b) is practiced to disable black and near black.

10. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein c) is practiced using a thermal ink-jet printer.

11. A method as recited in claim 10 wherein c) is further practiced using an ink-jet printer having a black ink cartridge as well as at least one primary color ink cartridge; and wherein b) is practiced by removing the active black ink cartridge from the printer to thereby disable printing with black ink.

12. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein the multicolor image of a) is a digital photograph.

13. A method as recited in claim 12 wherein the digital photograph is taken by an artist and input into the computer by the artist; and wherein a)-d) are practiced to produce a pseudo-abstract final art work.

14. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein b) is practiced to disable black and near black.

15. A piece of paper or canvas comprising a pseudo-abstract art work produced by practicing the method of claim 14.

16. A method as recited in claim 4 used in a curriculum to teach art to children.

17. A method as recited in claim 4 wherein b) is practiced using software in a computer controlling a printer.

18. A color printer controllable by a computer and capable of printing at least three colors on a substrate; and mechanical devices interconnected to computer controls and/or software which act on the printer or computer controlling the printer to selectively and temporarily disable the printing of one or more colors with the printer.

19. A color printer as recited in claim 18 wherein the printer comprises a thermal ink-jet printer, and wherein the mechanical devices and/or software include software in the computer.

20. A method of producing a work of art using a thermal ink-jet printer having an active black ink cartridge and at least one active primary color ink cartridge, and controlled by a computer, comprising:

a) inputting or selecting a multicolor image so that it is provided in the computer;

b) removing the active black ink cartridge from the printer, or controlling the printer with software, to disable from about 80-100% the capability of the printer to print black or near black while not significantly disturbing operation of the active primary colors cartridge;

c) with the printer, printing a substantially accurate representation of the image, but without about 80-100% of the black or near black, onto a substrate of paper or canvas; and

d) further acting upon the substrate from c) to add artistic elements to the substrate to produce a final artwork.

21. A method as recited in claim 20 wherein d) is practiced by adding acrylic paint to spaced portions of the substrate to provide colors and textures not present in the original image, and wherein c) is practiced so that the substrate is at least thirty pound matte paper, and wherein a) is practiced using a digital color photograph as the image.